

SENATE BILL 2076

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to textbooks.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

§49-7-1\_\_.

(a) The University of Tennessee system and the Tennessee board of regents shall develop policies for minimizing the cost of textbooks and course materials used at public institutions of higher education while maintaining quality of education and academic freedom. These policies shall require that:

(1) Faculty members submit lists of required textbooks and course materials to any on-campus bookstore in a timely manner to ensure that a sufficient quantity of such textbooks and materials are available for purchase when courses begin and that such lists, along with other relevant information concerning textbooks and course materials, including, but not limited to any International Standard Book Number (ISBN), be made available to students on the institution's website;

(2) Any on-campus bookstore disclose to faculty members on a per course basis the costs to students of purchasing the required textbooks and course materials and that faculty members affirmatively acknowledge the price of the textbooks and materials before an order is completed;

(3) Faculty members consider the least costly practices in assigning textbooks and course materials, such as adopting the least expensive edition of a textbook available when educational content is comparable to a more costly

edition as determined by the faculty member and working closely with publishers and bookstores to create bundles and packages only if they deliver cost savings to students;

(4) Any on-campus bookstore selling textbooks to students as part of a bundled package with other study products recommended by the publisher also provide students the option of purchasing such textbooks and other study products separately from each other, if possible;

(5) Any on-campus bookstore actively promote and publicize book buy-back programs; and

(6) Copies of textbooks shall be made available for student use at no cost through the academic department or through the reserve system of the institution's library.

(b) As used in this section, "bundled" means a group of objects joined together by packaging or required to be purchased as an indivisible unit.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.